

REMARKS

5

Claims 13-30 and 40-61 are currently pending. Claims 1-12 and 31-39 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are due at this time; however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to this document, the

10

Commissioner is authorized to deduct the fees from Ian F. Burns & Associates, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-0913.

I. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 13-30 and 40-61.

15

II. REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-12 and 31-39 were rejected over at least Great British patent GB216937A to Orr (hereinafter, "Orr") in view of U.S. patent 6,315,664 to Baerlocher et al. (hereinafter, "Baerlocher"). Claims 1-12 and 31-39 have been cancelled. Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection of claims 1-12 and 31-39.

20

25

CONCLUSION

For all of the above reasons, the Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the application or this response, the Examiner is encouraged to call Applicants' attorney, Ryan A. Heck, at (775) 826-6160.

Respectfully Submitted

Ryan A. Heck, Attorney for Applicants
Registration Number: 51,795

March 26, 2004